

GENERAL AWARENESS

- ❖ History & Culture
- ❖ Indian Polity
- ❖ Science
- ❖ Geography
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HISTORY & CULTURE

1. Swami Vivekananda addressed Chicago Parliament of Religions in the year

A) 1890 **B) 1892**

C) 1891 **D) 1893**

Explanation: **Ans: (D)**

Swami Vivekananda represented India and Hinduism at the Parliament of the World's Religions in 1893. This was the first World's Parliament of Religions and it was held from 11 to 27 September 1893. In 2012 a three day world conference was organized to commemorate 150th birth anniversary of Vivekananda.

2. Freedom fighter Aurobindo Ghosh was defended in the Alipore Bomb case by :

A) Bipin Chandra Pal B) Motilal Nehru

C) Chitta Ranjan Das D) Bhulabhai Desai

Explanation: **Ans: (C)**

In the Alipore Bomb Case, Aurobindo Ghosh was defended by the young lawyer Chittaranjan Das. It was an important court trial, during May 1908 to May 1909, in which the British Government tried to implicate Sri Aurobindo in various revolutionary activities.

3. Who founded Sanskrit college at Varanasi in the year 1792 ?

A) Jonathan Duncan

B) Madan Mohan Malaviya

C) William Jones

D) Tej Bahadur Sapru

Explanation: **Ans: (A)**

Jonathan Duncan started the Sanskrit College at Benares in 1791 for the study of Hindu law and Philosophy (both were designed to provide a regular supply of qualified Indians to help the administration of law in the courts of the Company). **In 1958, the Sanskrit College became a university and in 1974 the name was changed to Sampurnanand Sanskrit University.**

4. In which year did the Battle of Haldiaghat take place ?

A) 1574

B) 1575

C) 1576

D) 1578

Explanation: **Ans: (C)**

On 21 June 1576, the armies of Maharana Pratap and Akbar met at Haldighati, near the town of Gogunda in Rajasthan.

The battle was significant for the tenacity displayed by Rajputs and the art of defensive mountain warfare. Maharana Pratap Singh established a great example of courage and bravery in the battle of Haldighati.

5. Treaty of Bassein took place in the year :

A) 1802

B) 1807

C) 1809

D) 1805

Explanation: **Ans: (A)**

The Treaty of Bassein was a pact signed on 31 December 1802 **between the British East India Company and Baji Rao II**, the Peshwa of Pune. The treaty was a decisive step in the dissolution of the Maratha empire, which led to the East India Company's usurpation of the Peshwa's territories in western India in 1818.

6. Who was the Governor General of India when Regulating Act of 1773 was passed ?

A) Lord Cornwallis **B)** Lord Wellesley

C) Lord Amherst **D) Warren Hastings**

Explanation: **Ans: (D)**

Warren Hastings was the first Governor of the Presidency of Fort William (Bengal) and thereby the first de facto Governor-General of India from 1773 to 1785. It was during his time that the Regulating Act of 1773 was passed by the British Parliament for the regulation of the British East India Company's Indian territories, mainly in Bengal.

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7. **The Saka Era started from**

- A) 78 A.D. B) 58 B.C.
C) 59 A.D. D) 59 B.C.

Explanation:

Ans: (A)

The Saka era began in 78 A.D. Kushana emperor Kanishka is credited with the initiation of the Saka era on his accession to the throne in 78 A.D. **This era has been adopted by the Indian government as the Indian national calendar.**

8. **Nana Saheb's commander-in-chief during the revolt of 1857 was -**

- A) Azimullah B) Tantia Tope
C) Birjis Qadir D) Kunwar Singh

Explanation:

Ans: (B)

Tantia Tope, a personal adherent of Nana Sahib of Bithur, was an Indian leader in the Indian Rebellion of 1857 and one of its notable generals. **His real name was Ramachandra Pandurang tope. He was executed by the British Government at Shivpuri on 18 April 1859.**

9. **The famous book 'Satyarth Prakash' was written by**

- A) Swami Dayanand Saraswati
B) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
C) V.D. Savarkar
D) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

Explanation:

Ans: (A)

Satyarth Prakash ("The Light of Truth") is a book (1875) written originally in Hindi by Maharishi Dayananda Saraswati, a renowned religious and social reformer and the founder of Arya Samaj. The book has now been translated into more than 20 languages.

10. **The National Song 'Vande Mataram' is included in the novel**

- A) Gora B) Durgeshnandini
C) Godan D) Ananda Math

Explanation:

Ans: (D)

Vande Mataram, literally, "I praise thee, Mother"—is a poem from Bankim Chandra chatterjee's 1882 novel Anandamath. It is

a hymn to the Mother Land. It played a vital role in the Indian independence movement. It was first sung in a political context by Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress.

11. **Forward Bloc was founded by Subhash chandra Bose in the year**

- A) 1937 B) 1938
C) 1939 D) 1940

Explanation:

Ans: (C)

The Forward Bloc of the Indian National Congress was formed on 3 May 1939 by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The party re-established as an independent political party after the independence of India. It has its main stronghold in West Bengal.

12. **Who defeated Harsha Vardhana?**

- A) Devapala B) Kumaragupta
C) Pulakesin II D) Bhoja

Explanation:

Ans: (C)

Pulakesin II of the Chalukya dynasty defeated Harsha's army on the banks of Narmada River in 630 AD. The defeat resulted in a truce between the two kings, with Harsha accepting River Narmada as the southern boundry for his kingdom.

13. **The fourth Buddhist council took place during the reign of**

- A) Kanishka B) Asoka
C) Bimbisara D) Samudragupta

Explanation:

Ans: (A)

The Fourth Buddhist Council was held at Kundalvana, Kashmir, in 72 AD under the patronage of Kushan king Kanishka. It was presided over by Vasumitra, with Asvaghosha as his deputy. This council distinctly divided the Buddhism into 2 sects – Mahayana & Hinayana.

14. **'A post-dated cheque on a falling bank' - who said this in which context?**

- A) M.K. Gandhi on Cripp's Proposals
B) Jawaharlal Nehru on Cripp's Proposals
C) M.K. Gandhi on Cabinet Mission Plan
D) M.A. Jinnah on Cabinet Mission Plan

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| <p>Explanation: Ans: (A)
 Gandhi said that Cripps' offer of Dominion Status after the war was a "post-dated cheque drawn on a crashing bank". The Cripps mission was an attempt made in late March 1942 by the British government to secure full Indian cooperation and support for their efforts in World War II.</p> <p>15. The most important God in the Rigvedic period was
 A) Agni B) Rudra
 C) Varuna D) Indra</p> <p>Explanation: Ans: (D)
 Going by the number of hymns dedicated to divinities, Indra or Purandhara was the most important god of the Rig Vedic period. 250 Rig Vedic hymns are devoted to him. He played the role of warlord and was considered to be the rain god. Agni was the second most important God (200 hymns are devoted to him).</p> <p>16. Thomas roe visited India During the reign of which Mughal emperor?
 A) Akbar B) Shah Jahan
 C) Aurangzeb D) Jahangir</p> <p>Explanation: Ans: (D)
 Sir Thomas roe was sent by James I to the court of Jahangir in 1615 A.D. He remained at the court of Jahangir from 1615 to 1618. He succeeded in obtaining a Farman from Jahangir allowing the English to trade at Surat. At the Mughal court, roe allegedly became a favorite of Jahangir and considered as his drinking partner.</p> <p>17. Indian Association in the year 1876 was founded by
 A) C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru
 B) Keshav Chandra Sen
 C) Womesh Chandra Banerjee
 D) Surendranath Banerjee and Ananda Mohan Bose</p> <p>Explanation: Ans: (D)
 The Indian National Association also known as Indian Association was the first</p> | <p>avowed nationalist organization founded in British India by Surendranath Banerjee and Ananda Mohan Bose in 1876. It later merged with the Indian National Congress.</p> <p>18. The court poet of Pulakesin II was
 A) Harisena B) Ravikirti
 C) Kalhana D) Bhavabhuti</p> <p>Explanation: Ans: (B)
 Ravikirti was minister and poet in the court of Chalukyan king Pulakesin II. He composed the Aihole inscription (634 A.D) which describes the achievements of Pulakesin II and his victory against King Harshavardhana.</p> <p>19. Gautam Buddha spread his religion in the language of
 A) Sanskrit B) Magadhi
 C) Pali D) Sauraseni</p> <p>Explanation: Ans: (C)
 Gautam Buddha used Pali, the language of the masses, as the language of Buddhism. This helped in the propagation of Buddhism among the masses. Pali is the language of many of the earliest extant literature of Buddhism as collected in the Tripitaka.</p> <p>20. 'Rajatarangini' was written by
 A) Harisena B) Banabhatta
 C) Kalhana D) Kalidasa</p> <p>Explanation: Ans: (C)
 Rajatarangini (The River of Kings) was written in Sanskrit by Kalhana in 12th century A.D. It is a metrical historical chronicle of north-western Indian subcontinent, particularly the kings of Kashmir. It provides the earliest source on Kashmir.</p> <p>21. Simon Commission of 1927 was boycotted
 A) to protest the arrest of Mahatma Gandhi
 B) as Indians were excluded from the Commission
 C) to protest the inclusion of Sir John Simon in the Commission
 D) to protest against the Jallianwala bagh massacre</p> |
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Explanation: **Ans: (B)**

The Simon Commission caused outrage and insult to the Indian leaders since it did not include even a single Indian member. It had seven members, those were lifted from the three political parties of the British Parliament under the chairmanship of Sir John Simon. The Indian National Congress, at its Madras session in December 1927, resolved to boycott the Commission.

22. In 1930, the first phase of the Civil Disobedience Movement, viz the Salt Satyagraha began with Mahatma Gandhi's Marathon march from

A) Sabarmati B) Dandi
C) Bombay D) Delhi

Explanation: **Ans: (A)**

Salt March, also called Dandi March or Salt Satyagraha, was major non-violent protest action in India led by Gandhi in March–April 1930. Gandhi led the Dandi March from Sabarmati Ashram, near Ahmedabad. 78 people began the march with Gandhi, who intended to walk to the coastal village of Dandi, located at a small town called Navasari in the state of Gujarat.

23. Who was the last ruler of the Saluva dynasty?

A) Veer Narasimha
B) Harihara II
C) Immadi Narasimha
D) Bukka I

Explanation: **Ans: (C)**

Narasimha Raya II, also known as Immadi Narasimha Raya, was the third and last ruler of the Saluva dynasty, the second of the four dynasties to rule the Vijayanagara Empire. He ruled from 1491 to 1505. Upon Narasimha's death, Tuluva Vira Narasimha Raya was proclaimed emperor of Vijayanagara and the Tuluva dynasty came to the throne.

24. During whose tenure was the Hunter Commission set up for enquiring into the Jallianwala Bagh shoot out ?

A) Lord Lytton B) Lord Willingdon
C) Lord Linlithgow D) Lord Chelmsford

Explanation: **Ans: (D)**

Viceroy of India Lord Chelmsford, in October 1919, announced the formation of the Hunter Commission to enquire into the Jallianwala Bagh incident. It was named after the name of chairman, Lord William Hunter, former Solicitor-General for Scotland and Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland. This committee was also known as Disorders Inquiry Committee.

25. In which year was rowlatt Act passed?

I. 1919 II. 1921
III. 1929 IV. 1916

Select the correct answer :

A) IV B) III
C) I D) II

Explanation: **Ans: (C)**

Rowlatt Act was a legislative act passed by the Imperial Legislative Council in Delhi on March 18, 1919. It was also known as Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act, 1919. It was enacted in light of a perceived threat from revolutionary nationalist organisations.

26. Where is the Golden Temple Dambulla located ?

I. Malaysia II. Sri Lanka
III. Philippines IV. Indonesia

Select the correct answer :

A) II B) III
C) I D) IV

Explanation: **Ans: (A)**

Dambulla cave temple also known as the Golden Temple of Dambulla is a World Heritage Site located near Kandy in Sri Lanka. It is the largest and best preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka. The temple has a total of 153 Buddha statues and four statues of gods and goddesses.